

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A sealed battery, accommodating a battery element of flat shape, said battery element comprising a positive electrode and a negative electrode being laminated on each other with a separator interposed between them and being wound together, characterized in that a recessed portion is formed on a side surface of a battery case running in parallel to a flat surface of the battery element, said recessed portion having a central axis running in parallel to said flat surface and being positioned on a surface passing through the center of the battery case and running perpendicularly to the surface in parallel to the flat surface of the battery element.

2. A sealed battery according to claim 1, wherein said battery is a lithium ion battery.

3. A sealed battery according to claim 1, wherein a vertical wall surface is designed in form of a small curved surface, and said wall surface connecting an end of the recessed portion in form of curved surface on an opening of the battery case with a side surface in parallel to the flat surface of the battery element in the battery case, and a distance from the wall surface to the opening end of the battery is gradually reduced toward the center.

4. A sealed battery according to claim 3, wherein said battery is a lithium ion battery.